Defense Contractors Cut Top-Secret Clearances

Special to The New York Times

The nation's military and de-with access to top-secret mafense contractors, at the re-terials from 1,300 to 450 had quest of the Defense Depart-been recommended to the Dement, report that they are fense Department. quietly making substantial reductions in the number of their tractor, the Boeing Company of employes who hold top-secret Seattle, said that its review was Government security

ministration plan aimed at uiti- ber holding top-secret clearmately reducing the number of ances had already been reduced security clearances both in and from 100 to 34. out of Government. was on the Vietnam war.

tion, a privte consulting firm tions. engaged in defense work, has said that he had made the study available to the press, the reduction in the number of While an employe of Rand, Dr. Boeing personnel cleared to Elisberg clearance.

Most of the defense con-tractors who have been asked by the Defense Department to submit their recommendation. by the Defense Department to submit their recommendations on which employes no longer need top-secret clearances are still reviewing their personnel rosters. The Defense Departs ment said it would use the recommendations chiefly for guidance, and will retain the right to make the final determination on classification changes.

The reason, he said, is that the Defense Department permitted contractors to reinstate the Defense Department the top-secret classification any time within a year after down-grading "if a valid need arises." He said he believed that the ability to bid for a top-secret contract would be considered a "valid need."

Other major defense contractors to reinstate the top.

Government will eventually be security reasons.

considerably smaller.

The General Dynamics Corporation, the nation's second poration, the nation's second largest military supplier and a major builder of submarines reported that 1,528 employes or about 2.7 per cent of its work force, held top-secret clearances before it began its internal review.

After the screening process the list has been pared to 638.

the list has been pared to 638 according to officials at the leaves the been arraigned

Security measures at the possession of security measures at the ment documents.

Rand Corporation, where Dr In a related to

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25 - Rand employes and consultants

Another major defense conclear-still in progress, but reported that at one Midwest facility em-The move, part of an Ad-ploying 4,000 people the num-

Most of those who have lost prompted by a dispute last their clearances were "people June between the Government who at one time needed the and the press over the publica- top-secret clearances to pertion of a secret Pentagon study form their jobs, but who now for whatever reason no longer need it," according to Lowell Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, a former P. Mickelwait, Boening's vice employe of the Rand Corpora-president for industrial rela-

Won't Impair Ability

fir. Mickelwait added that 'held a top-secret work on top-secret projects would "absolutely" not impair

The reason, he said, is that

Other major changes.

Indications from companies companies tractors indicated that they were making or had made similar reductions in the number of top-secret Defense Department clearances outside the Government will eventually be compared to quote exact figures for the control of the co

Ellsberg Is Commended

Special to The New York Times

Dr. Ellsberg, who said he company's headquarters in St on charges of unauthorized Louis

Security measures at the possession of secret Govern-

Rand Corporation, where Dr. Elisberg worked, have been the target of particular attention. All secret decuments at Rand's offices in Washington and Santa Monica, Calif., have been placed under the direct personnel of the Air Force. A Rand's Offices and Santa Monica, Calif., have been placed under the direct pentagon papers." In a related resolution, the association applauded "the

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